To: Williams, Laura[williams.laura@epa.gov]

Cc: Guy, Kerry[Guy.Kerry@epa.gov]; Way, Steven[way.steven@epa.gov]; Ostrander,

David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov] **From:** Ferguson, Ralph

Sent: Wed 9/23/2015 10:39:15 PM

Subject: Re: AZ Republic (DDL COB 9/24): Bulkheads

Ralph Ferguson ICP-GKM FSC US Environmental Protection Agency

Office: 214-665-2147 Cell: 469-978-6201 ferguson.ralph@epa.gov

On Sep 23, 2015, at 4:00 PM, Williams, Laura < williams.laura@epa.gov > wrote:

Ralph and Kerry,

If you could coordinate responses from Steve (and/or contractors) on Questions 1-4,, that would be appreciated. Please note that the deadline is tomorrow COB. If we don't have the information on Q1, please don't research it. Let me know and I will inform others to do the research. Thank you, lw

From: StClair, Christie

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 3:55 PM

To: Deitz, Randy; Cohen, Nancy; Bassler, Rachel; Mahmud, Shahid; Stalcup, Dana;

Ostrander, David; Williams, Laura; Barry, Michael

Cc: EOC Public Information

Subject: AZ Republic (DDL COB 9/24): Bulkheads

All - Thanks in advance for your help answering these questions.

Reporter: Caitlin McGlade

Outlet: Arizona Republic

DDL: COB Thurs

Inquiry:

- 1. What are the water elevation levels behind bulkheads 2 and 3 in the American Tunnel? What documents exist to show this data?
- What stage is the EPA in the installation of bulkheads at Red and Bonita and at the Gold King Mine?
- 3. What effect would those two bulkheads have on the existing ones in the network of mines in the area?
- 4. Would it raise water levels inside the mountain behind the bulkheads 2 and 3 in the American Tunnel? If so, to what level?
- 5. John Reynolds, a consultant for the mining industry based in Durango, delivered a letter to the EPA staff in Colorado last week about a possible consortium of mine operators, proposing a remediation plan. Is this something the EPA would consider? To what extent is the EPA communicating with this group?

Christie St. Clair

US EPA Office of Public Affairs

c: 202-768-5780